



# The Informer

Mobile District United Methodist Women Newsletter Nov 2017

## A Message from the President

### MOBILE DISTRICT MISSION TEAM 2017

President

**Barbara Carroll**

Vice President

**Jay Locker**

Secretary

**Michele Smith**

Treasurer

**Kathy Ulmer**

Program Resource

**Bobbi Ferguson**

Communications

**Judy Burnham**

Mission Coordinators

Education and Interpretation

**Sylvia McCaskill**

Membership Nurture Outreach

**Robbie Bunkely**

Social Action

**Nancy Brumfield**

Spiritual Growth

**Gail Bradford**

Committee on Nominations

Class of 2017

**Nettie Lang, Chair**

**Linda Ferguson**

**Martha Teasley**

Class of 2018

**Martha Teasley**

**Mary Gipson**

**Joanne Myers**

Class of 2019

**Jamie Blake**

Class of 2020

**Betty Ewbank**

**Shirley Bryan**

**Nettie Lang**

Greeting UMW Sisters

This is a busy time for UMW Units. We are well into our last quarter of the year so we are trying to wrap up unit requirements and get an early start for the holidays.

Hopefully you have held or have scheduled your annual business meeting where you will plan for next year. At this meeting you should elect new officers, approve budget, plan calendar and conduct any other necessary business for next year. Also, as you plan, don't forget to order program resources such as the Program Book and Prayer Calendar needed to plan and conduct your program.

Please be reminded that end of the year reports will soon be due. They are listed along with the dates due in your District Directory. All directory updates are due by December 31.

All Pledge to Missions received through December 31<sup>st</sup> will be counted toward our 2017 pledge. Information has been sent to each unit president regarding how and why to transfer pledges, keeping in mind that the local budget consists of three main categories: Pledge to Missions, Administration and Membership Development and Mission Locally. I trust that each unit will do your best to help meet our goals – there are so many women, children and youth depending on us.

It is not too late to register for 2018 ASSEMBLY “THE POWER OF BOLD” in Columbus, Ohio, May 18-20, 2018. The National Office is asking each conference to increase attendance. Units are asked to send at least one member. Registration is now open and there is still room on the bus.

I hope that each unit is well on the way to meeting 2017 goals and are looking forward to an exciting new year. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR –SAVE THE DATE!!!!** District Officer Training is Saturday, **FEBRUARY 3, 2018** at **CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**. **SEE ALL UNITS THERE.....**

If you have questions, comments or suggestions, please call

Enjoy UMW Day through-out the district. Don't forget to send pictures and any special comments or recognitions.

I wish you a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season.

God Bless and Keep You in His Care

*Barbara*

**BARBARA CARROLL, UMW PRESIDENT, MOBILE DISTRICT**



**UMW Calendar**

**2018 District Dates**

District Officer's Training –  
Christ UMC – Feb 3, 9am  
Mission Study – Citronelle  
UMC – March 3  
District Annual Day –  
TWSUMC – April 8, 2:30pm  
UMCOR Workshop – Christ  
UMC, April 21, 9:30-11:00  
Mission Study – Springhill  
UMC – Aug 11

District Unit Presidents  
Meeting – Westside – Aug 18,  
10am  
District Spiritual Enrichment  
Day – Springhill Ave UMC –  
Sept 15

**2018 Conference Dates**

Conference Annual Day – Foley  
UMC Feb 23-24  
Mission u – St Luke UMC,  
Pensacola, FL, July 20-21  
Conference Spiritual  
Enrichment Day – Blue Lake,  
Oct 19-21

**Other 2018 Dates**

COSROW – Blue Lake – Jan  
19-20  
UMW Assembly – Columbus,  
OH “Power of Bold”- May 18-  
20, 2018  
AWF Annual Conference –  
June 3-6  
Nov – UMW Sunday in local  
churches

**Purpose**

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

**Mobile District UMW 2018 Budget**

Officer's Expenses

Postage	\$100
Supplies/Copies	\$200
Travel	\$125
Total Officer's Expenses	\$425

Other Expenses

Resources/Literature	\$200
Officer training	\$100
District Annual Day	\$100
Spiritual Enrichment Day	\$100
Newsletter/Correspondence	\$150
District Directory	\$100
Mission Studies	\$100
Assembly/Jurisdiction	\$300
Contingency Fund	\$200
Scholarship Annual UMC Conference (Pres.)	\$550
Audit Review	\$100
Retiring Officers	\$100
Total Other Expenses	\$2,100

Total Administrative and Development Budget  
\$2,525

**TOTAL PLEDGE TO MISSION \$2,000**

Saving for a rainy day is not good stewardship since today is a rainy day for thousands of women, children and youth for whom our Mission money offers help.

**Program Resources**

REMINDER FOR ALL READERS: Your completed reading list is due in to your Unit Program Resource Secretary BY OCTOBER 31, 2017. Be sure and get it to her or your President by that deadline in order for her to get them to me to put your information on the form to send to the Conference Resource Secretary. I'm looking for a big turnout this year since I know a lot you have gotten involved in the reading program this year since I had the privilege of meeting with several of your Units this year. You can go ahead and start on next year as soon as you finish you list for this year. Happy Reading 😊

Bobbi Ferguson  
Program Resources

### **Membership, Nurture and Outreach**

As you plan your membership Fall season, you can plan with expert reason for this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Always remember, live for each minute of every day! Today is what counts! Enjoy! Live for the Lord! Pray! Go with His joy and excitement!! Show new members that we need each other to get where God wants us to go. Our journey of the United Methodist Women has lots of hugs and smiles! Show our new members we truly care. May you have many blessings as you build your circles larger and stronger in fellowship and missions for the Lord.

We need to get a birthday officer in our circles...to call each member on their birthday. Just to think about them on their "special day" helps to hold and mold your circle together.

Celebrating you and your UMW Circle... "To God be the glory"

Blessings to you...

Robbie Bunkley  
Membership, Nurture and Outreach

### **Announcing E-Lerts!**

Knowing what busy lives you lead we searched for a way to send reminders that you should look at the website at least once per week. Please go to <http://www.awf-umw.org>, look to the left of the screen under Resources and click E-Lerts. This should open your default e-mail sending program to allow you to send a message requesting your name be added to the list.

Everyone on this list receives an e-mailed notice when the AWF-UMW home page is updated. These updates are generally done around 6 pm every Saturday night with a Hot Spot message. While you are on the site you will, of course, click on your district to see what has changed on that page.

Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of E-Lerts.

Vera Moore  
keeper of the websites:  
<http://www.awf-umw.org>  
<http://www.awf-umw.org/mobile.html>

### **Vice President**

Greetings from Jay! I pray that your UMW Unit has been having a wonderful year. We have had plenty of opportunities this year to be in mission!

Reminder to Presidents – Look for President Barbara Carroll's President's letter to you for your year-end responsibilities. Also, it is important that Unit Presidents have their Consolidated Report in by November 30, 2017.

Vice Presidents, contact your President to see if you can assist them in any way.

Enjoy your holidays and please remember it is important for you to attend local and district events with enthusiasm and willingness to serve.

Jay Locker  
Mobile District UMW Vice President

### **Education and Interpretation**

Mission Today Unit reports are due 11/15/2017. If you have questions please call Sylvia McCaskill at (256-527-6022). Also, Presidents should attach a copy of the Mission Today report to President's Report

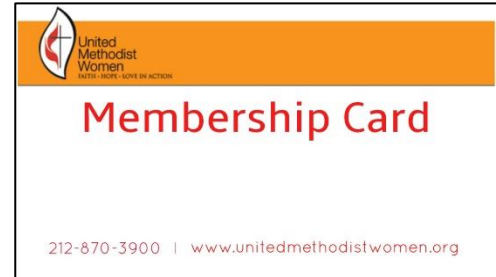
If you want information on becoming a Mission Today and 5 Star Unit, call Sylvia McCaskill, Coordinator of Education & Interpretation

The Mobile District UMW Nomination Committee would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to our new slate of officers for accepting the call to do God will. We are looking forward to a great year. Ministry and Mission is what we do as UMW.

We pray God blessings on each of you and know that we stand with you.

Nomination Chair  
Nettie Lang

The National UMW Office is asking that we complete the 2017 Census Report (like last year). All members should go to the UMW.org web-site to register and print membership cards. Each unit count helps determine the district count and is combined into the national membership count. Presidents go to: [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017) and click on purple box. Members go to: [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/myUMW](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/myUMW) and click blue box. Dead line for registration is MARCH 30, 2018, but please don't wait, do it now.



### **Spiritual Growth**

Thanks to all who participated in the leadership and the 78 who attended the Spiritual Enrichment Day. The evaluations were positive, especially of the hospitality and lunch provided by Kingswood UMW. Thanks to the leadership of Clara Ester on UMW History, Cindy Messer on her mission trip to Honduras this summer to teaching midwives in how to handle birth emergencies, and "Amazing Grace," Toulminville-Warren Street's Dance Team. Many ladies said they learned new things. At least one lady said she learned dance was "work." (LOL) The Amazing Grace participated in opening the morning and in the beginning of the afternoon worship. The conclusion of the day was a highlight with District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Debora Bishop summing up the day with what she has learned and leading a wonderful Communion Service.

When we join the United Methodist Church, we pledge to uphold the church with our presence, prayers, and our gifts. The Church has done surveys and found that many do not pray, even for their local church members because they say they don't know how to pray. The largest numbers of great prayer warriors that I personally know, are United Methodist Women. We should be taking a lead in leading and helping others enrich their prayer life. Upcoming from the General Church: A 5-part series on prayer: The first of the series is being written by the Communications Coordinator of the Zimbabwe (Africa) East Conference. Watch for it, but more importantly, find ways to enrich prayer in your own unit, circle, and church. Then let others know what you did and how they can do the same.

To **enrich** the Mobile District UMW, I have developed a devotion (about ten minutes) or a program (about 25-30 minutes) related to our scripture for the year. The scripture is 1 Peter 1:7 "... Faith.....of greater worth than gold." The presentation looks at the words--- faith, belief, and trust, which all are from the Biblical word "pistis." I assure you, I really want to come. To schedule, contact me at [gibrad66@gmail.com](mailto:gibrad66@gmail.com), or 251-675-4761 or cell, 502-424-8259.

Gail Bradford  
Spiritual Growth

## The UMW Legacy Fund

In 2019 United Methodist Women will reach the milestone of 150 years in mission. The next five years leading up to this anniversary is a time for celebration! It is also a time for reflection, a time to ask, "What will our legacy be?" How can we be as creative and effective as our foremothers were in leaving a strong women's mission organization and the means to provide for the needs of women, children in youth long after we're gone?

Gathering and telling the story of United Methodist Women is one way to celebrate and pass on this great legacy of mission. Every telling of the story is an invitation to some woman to join us in mission.

Giving to The Legacy Fund is another way.

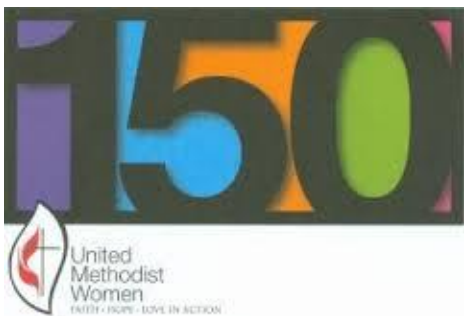
The Legacy Fund is a forward-thinking permanent endowment with income dedicated to strengthening United Methodist Women. Recently a small group of retired deaconesses and former staff and directors have led us to establish a five-year fundraising plan for The Legacy Fund. The total program of United Methodist Women is mission. United Methodist Women service, advocacy and transformative learning opportunities equip members to be agents of change and promotes the empowerment of women that is essential to address the root causes of so many conditions harming women, children and youth. The Legacy Fund will provide for administration of United Methodist Women's grants, scholarships and mission personal and finance technological updates like operating systems for data and communication, and more. Ensuring a regular source of support for these core expenses will free future generations to budget Mission Giving to connect directly with the needs of women, children and youth. It will allow our successors to promote Mission Giving in a totally different way.

You will hear more about this campaign through your Conference United Methodist Women. We invite every member to contribute to The Legacy Fund monthly or annually between 2015 and 2019. We also invite every member to name The Legacy Fund in her will or as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or pension. And, we will continue to tell the story and invite others to participate. We have a great legacy, and every one of us is part of extending that legacy to those who come after us. I can't wait to see what we can do as a part of this celebration.

Harriett Jane Olson  
General Secretary  
United Methodist Women

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/responsively-yours-pass-on-the-legacy>

(Note from Mobile District Treasurer: All Legacy Fund contributions should be sent directly to the UMW National Office.)



### Reports Due:

- 2018 Elected Officers – Nov 30
- Unit President's Consolidated Report – Nov 30
- Local Funds for 5 Star Unit – Nov 30
- Unit Mission Today Report – Nov 30
- Reading Program Report – Nov 30
- Completed Pledge to Missions Report – Dec 31
- Deceased Members Report – Jan 10, 2018

Please remember to submit any pictures of your unit's activities to me for the 2017 yearbook.

Thank you!

Shirley Bryan  
Historian



United Methodist Women Assembly -  
May 18-20, 2018 - Greater Columbus  
Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio.

#### Message from the District Secretary

All local UMW should be finalizing their slate of officers. Please forward and changes or up-dates to [michelesmith2002@hotmail.com](mailto:michelesmith2002@hotmail.com)

Also, reports are due so be sure numbers are correct. If you are reporting incorrect numbers it affects our financial obligations. Thanks for all your assistance. if you need help call me 251-895-1306

Michele Smith  
Secretary

#### Community Mission Opportunities

**Dumas Wesley Community Center** is a pillow in the Crichton Community. They provide a broad range of services for the elderly, unemployed, homeless and at-risk youth. While the center is coping with **total** funding cuts, the focus of this appeal **is** on three of the programs:

**Christmas Toy Store** – The store provides low-income families an opportunity to purchase new toys and bikes at a fraction of retail cost. This event is made possible through donations and sponsorships from generous supporters. Please consider donating toys, becoming a Corporate Sponsor (\$500.00), sponsoring a family (\$100.00) and/or volunteering. You can help make this “a Merry Christmas” for a lot of families. The date is December 9<sup>th</sup>

**Transitional Housing** – Families are in need of household items, such as twin bedding, kitchen items, cleaning products, personal items. There is always a need because these **items** are constantly being replaced. The Village houses over 20 families at all times.

**Senior Bingo** –This is an enjoyable event for the seniors. Games are held each Friday. They are in need of games prizes, such as paper and cleaning products. They also **need** volunteers to call the numbers. Call 251-479-0649 to donate or volunteer. **They need your help!!**

**Open Doors Resale Store** located at 4125 Government. The store accepts donations of gently used and new clothing and household items, etc They receive donations daily. They are in need of volunteers, so if you can give “any” time at all, please do so. Earnings from the store are divided between agencies such as Dumas Wesley Community Center and Inner City Mission. Please call 251-661-5661 to schedule your time. **They need your help!!**

**Please put your FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE INTO ACTION by making tax deductible donations. THEY NEED YOUR HELP!!**

Barbara Carroll, [United Methodist Women](#) Mobile District President